

### THE THIRD SPOT IN FOOTBALL HISTORY

The writer of these romantic football stories is a brilliant western coach who starred at Wisconsin in 1894, and has had splendid success in coaching Colorado, Wisconsin and Ohio State university teams. He is full of football history, and here gives *The Day Book* another of the high spots in the game.—Sporting Editor.

By John R. Richards.

A new way of scoring was invented with the first use of the place-kick from scrimmage. This kick is made by placing a player from eight to twelve yards behind center, to whom the ball is passed by the center. Another player stands a few feet back of this first man, and as the ball is placed on the ground and held in position, the second player kicks it.

All this is done while the line and disengaged backs are blocking opponents to prevent spoiling the kick. The place is a little slower than the drop kick.

The place-kick was used long before the application of the kick in a scrimmage was thought out. Place-kicks for goal after a touchdown had been in use for years. Place-kicks following a fair-catch, whereby the catching side has earned the right to a free-kick, were long in use.

The idea of using the place-kick under the trying circumstances of a scrimmage developed into tangible results in 1894. The first time in was used was in a game between Notre Dame and Chicago universities.

The Notre Dame coach, Earl

Herring, developed and practiced the play before going into the game, but he doubted its legality.

Herring consulted the referee before the game, explained the play, and asked his opinion. John C. Karel of Wisconsin, known to football fame as "Iky" Karel, was the referee, and he decided the play to be legal. Karel is now Judge Karel of Milwaukee.

During this game Notre Dame fought the ball into Chicago's territory and on the first attempt negotiated a goal from placement from the 35-yard line, scoring five points.

Following the introduction of the play by Notre Dame in 1897 it became a regular part of the aggressive play of the football teams of the country. The east adopted it and J. R. DeWitt of Princeton, became the first great place-kicker of that section. In 1901, 1902 and 1903, DeWitt's place-kicking caused trouble for all the teams on the Princeton schedules.

Pete Houser, Carlisle, is probably the greatest place-kicker ever developed. He mastered the art, and with the co-operation of his teammates, became a constant scoring asset for the Indians.

P. J. O'Dea, Wisconsin, was a great place and drop-kicker and is credited with the longest drop-kick and place-kick from scrimmage ever made in America. O'Dea dropped a goal against Northwestern from the 63-yard line. He made a place-kick from the 58-yard line against Illinois.

Parke H. Davis, Princeton, '93,